



**HAMRE, SCHUMANN,
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TO: Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
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FROM: Douglas P. Mueller
OUR REF: 10873.1576USWO
TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

Total pages, including cover letter: 19

PTO FAX NUMBER: 571.273.8300

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Title of Document: **Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 1 reference, copy of
Partial European Search Report, Translation of PCT/IPEA/409**

Applicant: OKAMOTO, et al.
Serial No.: 10/522,045
App. Filed: January 19, 2005
Group Art No.: 1645

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By: A handwritten signature of Douglas P. Mueller in black ink.

Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Peggy J. Kerkhove

A handwritten signature of Peggy J. Kerkhove in black ink.

Signature

December 13, 2005

Date

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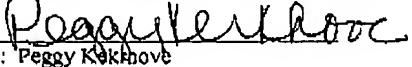
S/N 10/522,045

PATENTRECEIVED
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DEC 14 2005

Applicant: OKAMOTO, et al. Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/522,045 Group Art Unit: 1645
Filed: January 19, 2005 Docket: 10873.1576USWO
Title: MICROORGANISM OR CELL COLLECTION METHOD,
AND MICROORGANISM OR CELL COLLECTING
IMPLEMENT USED FOR THE METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 14, 2005.

By: 
Name: Peggy Kekhove

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in a Partial European Search Report mailed November 15, 2005. A copy is enclosed.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each foreign document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. Patent Documents are not included.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do

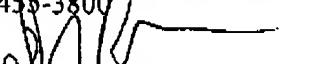
not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
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By: 

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

Dated: December 14, 2005

DPM/pjk



Date Mailed: December 14, 2005

Sheet 1 of 1

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.157GUSWO	Application Number: 10/522,045
	Applicant: OKAMOTO, et al.	
	Filing Date: January 19, 2005	Group Art Unit: 1645

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,085,781	February, 1992	Tsuru, et al.			
	6,010,869	January, 2000	Calomiris			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
		Lucore, et al., "Immobilization with Metal Hydroxides as a Means to Concentrate Food-Borne Bacteria for Detection by Cultural and Molecular Methods". Applied and Environmental Microbiology, vol. 66, no. 5, May 2000, p. 1769-1776				

52835

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

*Substitute Disclosure Statement Form (PTO-1449)

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PAGE 4/19 * RCVD AT 12/14/2005 3:42:47 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/26 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:612-455-3801 * DURATION (mm:ss):06-50